

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-05 L-02

AID-05 CEA-01 EA-10 FRB-01 IO-10 NEA-09 OPIC-06 SP-02

TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-02 PRS-01

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FM AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0793

INFO US MISSION OECD PARIS 0661

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UNCLAS STRASBOURG 72

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: EWWT, COE

SUBJECT: SHIPPING: UN CODE OF CONDUCT AND COUNCIL OF EUROPE

REF: A. STATE 70512

B. OECD PARIS 8972

STATE FOR EB/TT/MA AND EUR/RPE (VOGELGESANG)

1. COUNCIL SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL HAS ADVISED US THAT REPORT CITED PARA I REF B WAS ONLY A PRELIMINARY DRAFT PREPARED FOR COUNCIL SECRETARIAT, AND HAD NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE ASSEMBLY S COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT. REPORT THEREFORE REFLECTS ONLY AN INDIVIDUAL VIEW AND NOT A COUNCIL POSITION. PRELIMINARY DRAFT WAS SENT TO OECD FOR POSSIBLE COMMENT AND, IN VIEW OF COUNCIL SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL, WAS PREMATURELY GIVEN A WIDE DISTRIBUTION THERE. IN SHORT, BOTH VERSIONS OF THE REPORT ARE DRAFTS, AND NO REAL SIGNIFICANCE NEED BE ATTACHED TO THEIR PRESENT DIFFERENCES.

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2. SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL STRESSED COMPLEXITY OF SUBJECT MATTER, DIVERSITY OF NATIONAL VIEWS, AND PROSPECT OF EXTENDED DISCUSSIONS OVER CONSIDERABLE TIME. THUS, IN HIS VIEW, CALL FOR EARLY RATIFICATION IN SECOND PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

WOULD NOH BE ACCEPTED BY THE FULL COMMITTEE, LET ALONE THE ASSEMBLY. HE ADDED THAT CALL FOR EARLY RATIFICATION, IN ANY EVENT, SHOULD BE VIEWED AS LINKED TO PROGRESS TOWARDS CREATING AN OECD ARRANGEMENT THAT WOULD GIVE PRIORITY TO THE OECD CODE OF LIBERALIZATION FOR CURRENT INVISIBLE TRANSACTIONS.

3. ACCORDING TO SAME COUNCIL OFFICIAL, GROWING AWARENESS OF DIFFERENCES AMONG EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS IN THEIR APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM MAKE IT INCREASINGLY UNLIKELY THAT SUBJECT WILL BE DISCUSSED AT ASSEMBLY S OCTOBER 1975 SESSION. COMMITTEE RAPPORTEUR CITED REF B IS KNOWN TO FAVOR UNCTAD CODE BUT UNDOUBTEDLY WILL HAVE TO RESOLVE HIS POSITION WITH THAT OF TRADE UNIONS IN HIS OWN COUNTRY. ALLOWING FOR RAPPORTEUR S INTEREST, SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL EXPECTS THAT RECOMMENDATION AS IT FINALLY EMERGES FROM COUNCIL WILL FOCUS LARGELY ON FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE PROBLEM AND THE NEED TO HARMONIZE SAFETY AND MANNING RULES.

4. OCTOBER SESSION OF ASSEMBLY WILL INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF OECD ACTIVITIES AND MAY BE ATTENDED BY ONE OR MORE U.S. CONGRESSMEN. IN PARTICULAR, WE UNDERSTAND THAT REP. DONALD FRASER, WHO LED U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO ASSEMBLY S JANUARY 1974 SESSION ON OECD, IS INTERESTED IN COMING. SHOULD IT LATER APPEAR LIKELY THAT ASSEMBLY WILL CONSIDER THE REPORT IN ITS OCTOBER SESSION, DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO BRIEF ANY SUCH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION ON U.S. POSITION AS MEMBERS CAN BE EXPECTED TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO CLARIFY THEIR VIEWS IN CLOSED COMMITTEE MEETINGS PRIOR TO ASSEMBLY DEBATE.

5. WE ARE POUCHING TO DEPARTMENT COPIES OF THE TWO VERSIONS OF THE REPORT AS REQUESTED IN REF A.ROMINE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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